

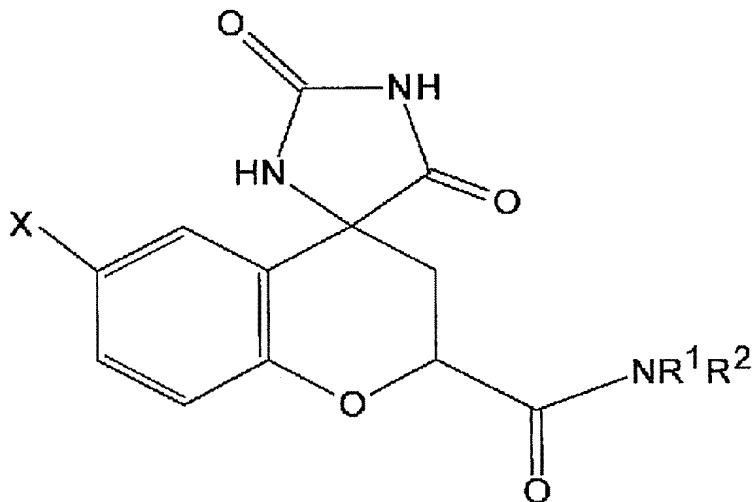
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) A method for ameliorating treating severe diabetic retinopathy in a mammal comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a compound represented by the following general formula:



(wherein X represents a halogen or a hydrogen atom, R¹ and R² concurrently or differently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted C1 to C6 alkyl group), or R¹ and R², together with a nitrogen atom bound thereto and optionally another nitrogen atom or an oxygen atom, are combined to form a 5- to 6-membered heterocycle.

6. (Currently Amended) The method for ameliorating treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 5, wherein the compound is (2S,4S)-6-fluoro-2', 5'-dioxospiro[chroman-4, 4'-imidazolidine]-2-carboxamide.

7-10. (Cancelled).

11. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 5, wherein said severe diabetic retinopathy is preproliferative diabetic retinopathy.

12. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 5, wherein said severe diabetic retinopathy is proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

13. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 11, further comprising suppressing development of preproliferative diabetic retinopathy.

14. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 11, further comprising suppressing development into proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

15. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 12, further comprising suppressing development of proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

16. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 13, wherein the development of preproliferative diabetic retinopathy is an occurrence of IRMA (intra-retinal microvascular abnormalities).

17. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 15, wherein the development of proliferative diabetic retinopathy is an occurrence of tractional retinal detachment.

18. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 11, wherein the method is for suppressing development of preproliferative diabetic retinopathy.

19. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 11, wherein the method is for suppressing development into proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

20. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 12, wherein the method is for suppressing development of proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

21. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 18, wherein the development of preproliferative diabetic retinopathy is an occurrence of IRMA (intra-retinal microvascular abnormalities).

22. (New) The method for treating severe diabetic retinopathy according to claim 20, wherein the development of proliferative diabetic retinopathy is an occurrence of tractional retinal detachment.